

It is my opinion that the current requirement to successfully complete the element 1, 5 wpm morse code exam to qualify for HF priveleges should remain in force. The HF bands are a privelege afforded to those that take the time to learn a valuable skill. With the standards having been previously lowered to the 5 wpm level, acheivement of HF priveleges is by far within the reach of any technician that wants to take the time and put forth the effort to acheive the goal of upgrading. In my opinion the already overcrowded HF spectrum would be unable to handle the sheer volume of increased operations with an overnight influx of operators should the morse code requirement be dropped. I respectfully request the Commission keep in place the existing element 1 requirement for HF priveleges in the amateur service.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration in the mattter.